

Serial No. 09/712,743
Docket No. 10655.9500

REMARKS

The Office rejects claims 1-48 in the subject application. Applicant amends claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 11, 14, 18-22, 24, 25, 31, 32, 34, 35, 40, 43, 44, and 46 and cancels claims 3, 9, 12, 13, 17, 23, 30, 33, 41, 42, 47, 48. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10, 11, 14-16, 18-22, 24-29, 31, 32, 34-40, and 43-46 (6 independent claims; 36 total claims) remain pending in the application. Support for the amendments may be found in the originally filed specification, claims, and figures. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

The Office rejects claims 1-48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lewis (U.S. Patent No. 6,513,019, issued January 28, 2003) in view of Jones (U.S. Patent No. 6,021,397, issued February 1, 2000). Based on the foregoing claim amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is thus requested. Applicants invite the Office to telephone the undersigned regarding any questions whatsoever about this Reply or the present application in general.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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